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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/676,174

Examiner

Ellen C. Tran

Applicant(s)

KRTOLICA ET AL.

Art Unit

2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 27 August 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 21 Sept. 2007.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Ellen C. Tran
 ELLAN TRAN
 PATENT EXAMINER
 2134

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DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to amendment filed on 27 August 2007 and Examiner Initiated Interview on 21 September 2007. Claims 1, 19, and 20 have been amended. Amendments to the claims are accepted.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record is attached. Please enter entire claim set. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. The examiner's amendment was authorized by attorney of record Paul Hentzel in phone interview on 21 September 2007.

Response to Arguments

- 3 Applicant's arguments filed 27 August 2007 have been fully considered and they are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

Conclusion

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ellen C Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3842. The examiner can normally be reached from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on (571) 272-3811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ellen. Tran
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2134
21 September 2007

Examiner's Amendment

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of distributing voice, video and data information packets containing headers over a communication network, from multiple send endpoint ports, in a send endpoint unit, through a standard based send firewall adapter, across at least one firewall, through a standard based receive firewall adapter, to multiple receive endpoint ports in a receive endpoint unit, wherein the firewall adapter is used with a customized port, comprising the steps of:

determining a single firewall port through the at least one firewall, from a plurality of firewall ports into the network;

opening a network tunnel connection over the communication network, along determined firewall port, which connection traverses the at least one firewall;

multiplexing multiple streams of packets in the multiple send endpoint ports of the send endpoint unit, into the single determined firewall port, to form a single stream of multiplexed packets;

sending the multiplexed packets over communication network through the opened tunnel connection, from the send firewall adapter to the receive firewall adapter; and

demultiplexing the single determined firewall port into the multiple receive endpoint ports of the receive endpoint unit to form multiple streams of demultiplexed packets.

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2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising before the sending step the additional step of providing a header protocol from a stack of protocols in response to the packet headers.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, further comprising the additional step of altering the protocol stack by adding or deleting specific protocols.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one firewall is
a single firewall between the communication network and either the send firewall adapter
or the receive firewall adapter.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one firewall is at least two firewalls,
a send firewall between the communication network
and the send firewall adapter and
a receive firewall between the communication network and the receive firewall adapter.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the communication network has a network
protocol for distributing information packets.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the network protocol is TCP.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein the communication is carried by voice and/or
video.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the communication network is an internet.
10. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the communication network is a wide area network.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the communication network is a local area network.
12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined firewall port is selected by the send firewall adapter.
13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined firewall port is selected from a range of firewall ports.
14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined firewall port is predetermined.
15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the predetermined firewall port is a default port.
16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein the predetermined default firewall port is the HTTP network port.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising before the sending step the additional step of opening multiple logical communication channels within the opened tunnel connection by assigning channel numbers in the header of the packets, the multiple channels corresponding to the multiple send endpoint ports.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising after the sending step the additional step of opening multiple receive endpoint ports within the receive endpoint unit by assigning port numbers in the header of the packets, the multiple receive endpoint ports corresponding with the multiple logical communication channels.

19. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for distributing voice, video and data information packets containing headers over a communication network, from multiple send endpoint ports, in a send endpoint unit, through a standard based send firewall adapter, across at least one firewall, through a standard based receive firewall adapter, to multiple receive endpoint ports in a receive endpoint unit, wherein the firewall adapter is used with a customized port, comprising:

means for determining a single firewall port through the at least one firewall, from a plurality of firewall ports into the network;

means for opening a network tunnel connection over the communication network, along determined firewall port, which connection traverses the at least one firewall;

means for multiplexing multiple streams of packets in the multiple send endpoint ports of the send endpoint unit, into the single determined firewall port, to form a single stream of multiplexed packets;

means for sending the multiplexed packets over communication network through the opened tunnel connection, from the send firewall adapter to the receive firewall adapter; and

means for demultiplexing the single determined firewall port into the multiple receive endpoint ports of the receive endpoint unit to form multiple streams of demultiplexed packets.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media for storing computer instructions which cause a computer to distribute voice, video and data information packets containing headers over a communication network, from multiple send endpoint ports, in a send endpoint unit, through a standard based send firewall adapter, across at least one firewall, through a standard based receive firewall adapter, to multiple receive endpoint ports in a receive endpoint unit, wherein the firewall adapter is used with a customized port, by executing the steps of;

determining a single firewall port through the at least one firewall, from a plurality of firewall ports into the network;

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opening a network tunnel connection over the communication network, along determined firewall port, which connection traverses the at least one firewall;

multiplexing multiple streams of packets in the multiple send endpoint ports of the send endpoint unit, into the single determined firewall port, to form a single stream of multiplexed packets;

sending the multiplexed packets over communication network through the opened tunnel connection, from the send firewall adapter to the receive firewall adapter; and

demultiplexing the single determined firewall port into the multiple receive endpoint ports of the receive endpoint unit to form multiple streams of demultiplexed packets.

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